



Grahamstown Residents' Association

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7 December 2017

The Hon. Nomhle Gaga, Executive Mayor
Makana Municipality
City Hall, High Street
Grahamstown 6139

Grey Dam – risk of drowning

Dear Madam Mayor

Grahamstown Residents' Association is concerned about a number of issues in Makana. You are probably aware through Press reports that each summer, particularly over the Christmas period and into January youths go to Grey Dam to play.

Sadly this has all too often led to tragedy as one or more young people have drowned in Grey Dam. Possibly with so many pressing matters this has been missed. Some simple measures could save lives.

Even placing warning notices and emergency contact numbers would help. Provision of life-saving equipment would be better, and ideally Makana would place one or more staff at Grey Dam at the critical times capable of preventing the drownings.

This letter is an appeal to you to take some action, before Christmas to avert another death of a young Grahamstown child, usually male and usually from Rhini.

Like many people, GRA will support any measures you take, and urge you to act quickly. Please let us know what you propose to do and whether we can help in any way to facilitate prompt action.

Yours sincerely

Philip Machanick (GRA chair: philip.machanick@gmail.com)

For your quick reference the recent deaths are:

- 2017: <http://www.grocotts.co.za/2017/01/22/child-drowns-in-grey-dam>
<http://www.sabreakingnews.co.za/2017/01/23/11-year-old-drowned-in-grey-dam>
- 2015: <https://www.algoafm.co.za/article/local/44662/two-brothers-drown-in-grahamstown-dam>
<http://www.grocotts.co.za/2015/01/25/grahamstown-brothers-drown>
- 2013: <https://www.pressreader.com/south-africa/grocotts-mail/20130108/281505043564835>
- 2011: <https://www.pressreader.com/south-africa/grocotts-mail/20111011/281479273171580>



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